

movement, each valve element having axial measuring and segmenting passageways therethrough arranged for selective communication when at least one valve element is rotated, the junction of said passageways being at the said faces, the improvement comprising a continuous channel formed in one of said faces along a path extending substantially along the periphery of said face but spaced inwardly thereof, said channel being non-interferent with any of the passageway openings and being spaced from and not in normal operative communication with said passageways, said channel capable of intercepting any liquid traversing the faces, said channel having an inlet, an outlet and bore means formed in said valve means communicating with said inlet and outlet and capable respectively of receiving and discharging rinse liquid from a source thereof, flushing said channel of any material accumulating therein, said channel being in substantially constant communication with said inlet and said outlet.

2. The transfer valve assembly as claimed in claim 1 in which said channel is of uniform cross section along its length.

3. The transfer valve assembly as claimed in claim 1 in which said channel includes inner and outer portions formed along the greater portion of concentric circles.

4. The transfer valve assembly as claimed in claim 1 in which one of said inlet and outlet are offset relative to the center line axis taken along said channels.

5. The transfer valve assembly as claimed in claim 1 in which the inner and outer portions of said channel comprises grooves equispaced radially.

6. The transfer valve assembly as claimed in claim 1 in which the walls of the continuous channel are chamfered to facilitate flow of liquid therein during the rinsing of the cleaning channel.

7. The transfer valve assembly as claimed in claim 1 in which the inner channel portion and the outer channel portion are concentric relative the center of said face.

8. The transfer valve assembly as claimed in claim 1 in which the continuous cleaning channel is formed on the faces of oppositely disposed valve elements.

9. The transfer valve assembly as claimed in claim 1 in which there are three valve elements, the outer valve elements having faces engaged frictionally with the opposite faces of the inner member, the inner member being rotatable, with the channel formed in at least one of the engaged faces of the outer pair of said valve elements.

10. The transfer valve assembly as claimed in claim 1 in which there are two outer valve elements sandwiching an intermediate rotatable valve element, said valve elements being frictionally engagable face to face, the intermediate element carrying the segmenting passageways, said channel being formed in one of the faces of the outer elements which is frictionally engaged with a face of said intermediate valve element.

11. The transfer valve assembly as claimed in claim 10 in which said channel is formed in the faces of both outer elements which are frictionally engagable with the respective faces of said intermediate element.

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